

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A lubricating apparatus for a horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:

a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis being disposed in parallel to a horizontal longitudinal axis of a main gallery and a horizontal longitudinal axis of a crank shaft of the engine;

said relief valve having an L-shaped body with a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery and a shorter transverse part connected at one end to and in communication with the main gallery.

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2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A lubricating apparatus for a horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:

a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis being disposed in parallel to a horizontal longitudinal axis of a main gallery and a horizontal longitudinal axis of a crank shaft of the engine;

wherein said relief valve further comprises:

an L-shaped body, having a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery and a shorter transverse part connected at one end to and in communication with the main gallery, said L-shaped body including a discharge port formed therein;

a cylindrical valve body movably received within said L-shaped body to open and close said discharge port; and

wherein when hydraulic pressure within said main gallery becomes a predetermined value, said cylindrical valve body is operated to open said discharge port to relieve the hydraulic pressure.

4. (Currently Amended) A lubricating apparatus for a horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:

a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis being disposed in parallel to a horizontal longitudinal axis of a main gallery and a horizontal longitudinal axis of a crank shaft of the engine;

wherein said relief valve further comprises:

an L-shaped body, said L-shaped body including a shorter transverse part and a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery ~~and shorter transverse part~~;

a cylindrical valve body slidably inserted in said longer longitudinal part;

a stopper for restricting movement of said cylindrical valve body in said longer longitudinal part;

a spring for biasing said cylindrical valve body toward said stopper;

a spring stop for pressing said spring; and

a mounting portion formed integrally with said L-shaped body for mounting said relief valve to a bottom wall portion of the main gallery.

5. (Previously Presented) The lubricating apparatus for a dry sump engine according to claim 4, wherein said longer longitudinal part includes a discharge port formed therein, and wherein when said cylindrical valve body is moved against the bias of said spring, the discharge port is opened to allow hydraulic pressure in the main gallery to be relieved.

6. (Currently Amended) The lubricating apparatus for a dry sump engine according to claim 1, further comprising:

a an oil tank; and

a strainer for straining oil recovered in the oil tank, said strainer being provided in said oil tank.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A lubricating apparatus for a horizontally disposed dry sump engine comprising:

an oil tank mounted on an end of said engine, so as to reduce a vertical height of said engine;
and

a relief valve provided in said oil tank

wherein said relief valve further comprises:

a lead pipe, said lead pipe being connectable to an outlet pipe of an oil filter, said lead pipe including a discharge port formed therein;

a cylindrical valve body slidably inserted in said lead pipe;

a stopper for restricting movement of said cylindrical valve body in said lead pipe;
a spring for biasing said cylindrical valve body toward said stopper; and
a spring stop for pressing said spring;
wherein said cylindrical valve body is received within an L-shaped body comprising the lead pipe and when moved against the bias of said spring, said discharge port is opened to allow hydraulic pressure in the outlet of the oil filter to be relieved.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A lubricating apparatus for a dry sump engine, according to claim 9, further comprising:

a strainer for straining oil recovered in said oil tank provided in said oil tank.

12. (Previously Presented) A horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:
a crank shaft having a horizontal longitudinal axis mounted for rotation therein;
a main gallery having a horizontal longitudinal axis extending in a direction parallel to said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft; and
a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis of said cylindrical relief valve being disposed in parallel to said longitudinal axis of said main gallery and said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft;

said relief valve having an L-shaped body with a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery and a shorter transverse part connected at one end to and in communication with the main gallery.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) A horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:

a crank shaft having a horizontal longitudinal axis mounted for rotation therein;

a main gallery having a horizontal longitudinal axis extending in a direction parallel to said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft; and

a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis of said cylindrical relief valve being disposed in parallel to said longitudinal axis of said main gallery and said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft;

wherein said relief valve further comprises:

an L-shaped body, having a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery and a shorter transverse part connected at one end to and in communication with the main gallery, said L-shaped body including a discharge port formed therein;

a cylindrical valve body movably received within said L-shaped body to open and close said discharge port; and

wherein when hydraulic pressure within said main gallery becomes a predetermined value, said cylindrical valve body is operated to open said discharge port to relieve the hydraulic pressure.

15. (Currently Amended) A horizontally disposed dry sump engine, comprising:

- a crank shaft having a horizontal longitudinal axis mounted for rotation therein;
- a main gallery having a horizontal longitudinal axis extending in a direction parallel to said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft; and
- a cylindrical relief valve, said cylindrical relief valve having a longitudinal axis disposed in a horizontal direction, said longitudinal axis of said cylindrical relief valve being disposed in parallel to said longitudinal axis of said main gallery and said longitudinal axis of said crank shaft;

wherein said relief valve further comprises:

- an L-shaped body, said L-shaped body including a shorter transverse part and a longer longitudinal part parallel to said main gallery ~~and a shorter transverse part~~;
- a cylindrical valve body slidably inserted in said longer longitudinal part;
- a stopper for restricting movement of said cylindrical valve body in said longer longitudinal part;
- a spring for biasing said cylindrical valve body toward said stopper;
- a spring stop for pressing said spring; and
- a mounting portion formed integrally with said L-shaped body for mounting said relief valve to a bottom wall portion of the main gallery.

16. (Previously Presented) The dry sump engine according to claim 15, wherein said longer longitudinal part includes a discharge port formed therein, and wherein when said cylindrical valve body is moved against the bias of said spring, the discharge port is opened to allow hydraulic pressure in the main gallery to be relieved.

17. (Currently Amended) The dry sump engine according to claim 12, further comprising:

a an oil tank; and

a strainer for straining oil recovered in the oil tank, said strainer being provided in said oil tank.